History
1951-52

HISTORY OF THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF ARCADIA 1951-1952

EMBRACING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE ACTIVITIES AND GROWTH OF THE CLUB

The Club year opened with the annual membership tea given each year by the Membership Committee to meet new members and to greet other members and their guests. In September the Club also sponsored a Press Conference in conjunction with the Arcadia Tribune, to which all local organizations were invited.

The Program Chairman and her Committee arranged varied programs for the year, some serious, some musical and some frivolous.

The Art Department conducted field trips to Pasadena Art Institute, Claremont Art Institute and Huntington Library Art Gallery, sponsored a Club program, conducted an art show, and six members exhibited their own paintings at six different Club meetings. The Department also collected $9.42 for the Los Angeles District Federation Penny Art Fund.

The California History and Landmarks Department sponsored a program for the Club, took three field trips and made a donation for the preservation of the Big Trees.

The Drama Department sponsored a program for the Club, which was a play given through the courtesy of the members of the Drama Department of the Michillinda Woman's Club. The Department hosted a combined honorary and silver tea, to which the Japanese Consulate was invited, object, to show appreciation to Japan for being such gracious hosts to our boys stationed there during the present crisis. The decorations for the tea were carried out in authentic Japanese motif.

The Garden Department started the year with a lovely garden party, a Ways and Means project to pay for their programs through the year; conducted a flower arrangement contest each meeting, a prize being given to the member winning the greatest number of monthly contests. The Department sponsored a Club program and also sponsored a successful flower show for the city and neighboring communities. The Garden Department was also in charge of decorations for the year.

The International Relations Department sponsored a Club program, and at Christmastime carried on their own philanthropy by gift wrapping and presenting to the crippled children at Casa Calonas Hospital gifts of towels, soap, wash cloths and other items suggested by those in charge of the Hospital. On February 14th this Department held their Ways and Means annual luncheon, which was not only open to Club members but also to the public. Net profit $51.77. The Department recently purchased a framed roller map of the World at a cost of $30.00. The map will hang on the wall in the Solarium and may be rolled to the ceiling when not in use.

A Literature Department was formed during the summer months and held monthly meetings; conducted a field trip, and all Department members registered in the Arcadia Adult Education Class of Book Reviews. These classes were held monthly in the Solarium of the Clubhouse through the courtesy of the Club, a member of the Department acting as registrar for the class.

The Music Department held regular monthly meetings in the homes of Department members, having among other things choral singing at these meetings; sponsored a Club program, and were instrumental in procuring

the Boys' Chorus of First Avenue School for a luncheon program. The theme for the year was "Music's Contribution to the American Way of Life". The philanthropy of the Department was a donation of $25.00 to the San Gabriel Valley Symphony Association.

I ifey one new members were welcomed into the club, and one member reinstated.

REPORT OF FEDERATION DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN

The American Citizenship Chairman attended two District Conferences, and led the Pledge of Allegiance at regular Club meetings.

The Bible Chairman opened the meetings with an inspirational.

The Legislative Chairman attended two District Conferences.

The Narcotics Chairman presented Mr. Williams from the National Foundation of Education, who spoke to the Club on the evils of narcotics. This Chairman also participated in an open forum planned by the Woman's Club, PTA Council, Police Department and Adult Education Department.

The Water Chairman attended two District Conferences.

EVENING DIVISION

The Evening Division met twice monthly and increased their membership to eighteen. In October two hundred fifty-four pounds of packaged dehydrated foods, costing approximately $50.00, plus good clothing collected by members was shipped to eleven families in different sections of France at a postal cost of $33.56. Letters of appreciation were received from all of these families.

In November the Division adopted one hundred fifty-nine half-orphans for their Christmas philanthropy project. These children were from broken homes and children released from sanitariums who had nowhere to go as their own homes were not proper for their immediate care and needs. These children were considered half-orphans and were supported in foster homes at County expense. Each child was asked what three things they would like most for Christmas and the Division members pledged themselves to obtain at least two or three requests for each child. This was accomplished by other Club members donating used toys, bikes, trikes, wagons, dolls and clothes, the Division members doing the repairing and repainting. Other small organizations also contributed. The members spent a total of $284.52 for items, including skates, dolls, bicycle tires, wood carving sets, sport equipment, slippers, cosmetics, etc. Also purchased were gay materials and they interested outside groups into making up skirts to actual measurement of the girls to be gifted as well as a dozen handsome sport shirts for the boys. The girls in the Division were weary but satisfied when they gift wrapped five hundred thirteen presents on the night of December 14th.

On March 21st and 22nd a rummage sale was held in Pasadena, net profit $450.00.

Another one hundred twenty-nine pounds of clothing and food was collected and mailed to European families.

On March 19th, Reciprocity Day, the Division decorated the Clubhouse and one member made artificial flower corsages for all special guests.

The Division sponsored a Brownie Troop and also sponsored a program for the Club, prepared and served one luncheon, and decorated a table for the Club Birthday Party luncheon.

The Social Department met monthly, their meetings beginning with a potluck dinner, followed by dancing and cards.

The Club philanthropies included Community Chest, Red Cross, Girl Scouts, Campfire Girls, Thrift Shop, Rancho Los Amigos, Chaplain Service, American Cancer Society, Milk Fund for Korea, the Jackie Thrall Fund; also took complete charge of self-seller Christmas Seals. The Philanthropy Committee supported two Christmas parties and presented individual checks to five veterans at Sawtelle and collected $41.82 for the March of Dimes.

At the suggestion of the Hospital Contact Chairman, the Club members donated fruit juices and canned fruits to Van Velzer Sanitorium for Little Children. Money was collected for the purchase of materials for gowns for these children and one member of the Committee made and donated ten pinafores. Clothing and shoes were also donated by Committee members. Flowers were taken by the Chairman to Santa Anita Hospital and tobacco and money given to those who had no one interested in them.

The main project of the Club for the year was entering and carrying through the Build Freedom With Youth Contest of General Federation. All civic, religious, educational and youth organizations were invited to participate in this program.

Through many and varied projects, the Woman's Club of Arcadia raised a total sum of $3739.35, for the furtherance of the Contest. After several meetings, twenty-two projects were adopted with a Club member acting as Coordinator of each project. All were worthwhile projects to work with and for the youth of our community. The Committee in charge of this contest established a Student Loan Fund of $1000.00, a Nurse's Scholarship of $150.00, donated $500.00 for books for the High School Library, and donated $300.00 to the High School for art; contributed to Student Body Fund of Arcadia High School $50.00, and to Student Exchange $300.00.

The Contest was brought to a successful conclusion and while the Club did not win a prize at the General Federation Convention, it did win first place at the California Federation of Womens' Clubs Convention and a check for $200.00 for the furtherance of youth, besides receiving honorable mention at the District Federation Convention.

On March 19th our President and Club hosted twenty-four reciprocity guests, including the District President, and the Dean of State Chairmen.

The President, Mrs. Bruce G. McAbery, presided at all Board meetings and all regular Club meetings, with the exception of two when she was representing the Club at Conventions. She attended three District conferences and took part in panels at two conferences; attended three County conferences; attended all President's conferences with the exception of one; represented the Club on Citizens' Advisory Committee of the School Board; attended twenty reciprocities; also attended one conference of the Juniors of our Club. She installed officers in the Junior Club. She represented the Club at County, District, State and General Conventions.

In closing, it seems proper and fitting to pay tribute to Mrs. McAbery. In the pursuance of her duties as President, her conduct is best expressed in this little verse by Charles Evans Hughes:

"To have courage without pugnacity,
To have conviction without bigotry,
To have charity without condescension,
To have faith without credulity,
To have meekness with power, and emotion with sanity,
To have love for humanity without mere sentimentality
--This is Christianity."

Submitted June 4, 1952 Signed Estelle Messenger

June 4, 1952

Mrs. Bruce McAlvery,
President, Womans'
Club of Arcadia.

Dear Mrs. McAlvery:

The San Gabriel Valley
Junior Symphony Orchestra
is pleased to present to
the Womans Club of Arcadia,
for its archives, the history,
personnel and programs of
the organization, made
possible by the Buehl
Freedom With Youth program
under the sponsorship of
the Club.

Sincere thanks go to

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Mr. Harold H Scott, director,
for his inspiring leadership,
and his untiring efforts
to create an orchestra
children are proud of, and
eager to belong to.

great credit is due
Mrs J. E Hutton, not alone
as membership chairman,
but also for her devotion
to the group.

It has been a great
privilege to have served
on a project as noteworthy
as this one. It is my
sincerest hope That it will
continue long after our full
sponsorship has ended.

Sincerely
Lillian Ross (Mrs John P.
Coordinator

LEWIS J. ASHBY
937 CORONADO DRIVE
ARCADIA, CALIFORNIA

June 4, 1952

Upon detailed examination, we have found that all of the transactions of the Woman's Club of Arcadia for the period covering ~~September~~ June (RJ) 1951 to May ~~22~~ 29 (RJ), 1952 inclusive are in agreement with the records and appear to be in order.

Mrs Harriett Ashby

Mrs. Grace Hatch

Mrs. Ruth Abbott

Dear Alice,

It looks now like I may not get away in time for this report so I will ask you to read it for me.

It was a difficult task that Audrey Short, Florence Timmons and I had in judging the reports of the departments, as each did a splendid job last year, contributing much to the progress of the club and to the happiness of the membership. Most of the chairmen turned in very well written reports, and in plenty of time.

In considering all points, we came to the conclusion that the Evening Division had chalked up the most outstanding record during the year and is our choice for the club trophy. Composed of 18 members, this group has directed all of its activities to philanthropy.

In October, the division collected 254 pounds of good clothing and packaged-dehydrated foods for 11 families living in different sections in France.

In November, 159 half-orphans were adopeted as the Christmas philanthropy project. These children were mostly from broken homes or children recently released from sanitariums. These youngsters were asked to name three wishes for Christmas and the group carried out this ambitious program. It spent $284.52 on articles ranging from bicycles to cosmetics for girls, and gift-wrapped 513 presents.

During December an additional 129 pounds of food and clothing were sent to France. A rummage sale in March netted $450 for the division. All money raised by the Evening Division has been used to carry on its philanthropies.

As its closing project of the year, two polio cribs were presented to the Sister Kenny Foundation in El Monte.by the division.

Sincerely,

Catherine Mundy.

Catherine Mundy